

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS**

**AMENDMENT DATE:** June 24, 2008  
**POSITION:** Neutral

**BILL NUMBER:** AB 2857  
**AUTHOR:** S. Lieber

**BILL SUMMARY: CA Alternative Rates for Energy Eligibility**

This bill would prohibit the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) from denying eligibility for the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE) program for residents or tenants of a master-metered mobile home park, apartment building, or similar residential complex on the basis that some units in the complex are not individually metered.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

There would be no fiscal impact to the PUC associated with this bill.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

Amendments to this bill since our analysis of the March 25, 2008 version, would define the type of residential complexes where the sub-metered resident may participate in the CARE program. This amendment is minor and does not alter our previous position.

**COMMENTS**

Finance is neutral on this bill as it would not result in increased costs to the PUC, and would allow qualified applicants the opportunity to participate in the CARE program.

Existing law establishes the CARE program to provide a 20 percent discount on monthly electric and gas bills for qualified low- or fixed-income households and housing facilities. In addition, the PUC is required to accept and respond to complaints pertaining to the master-meter customer's responsibilities to its users.

It is the author's intent that all mobile home park, apartment building, or similar residential complex residents that qualify for the CARE program receive the discount when they are sub-metered. Currently, if some of the units in a complex are not sub-metered, no residents can qualify for the CARE program.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	CO	PROP								
	RV	98	FC	2008-2009	FC	2009-2010	FC	2010-2011		
8660/PUC	SO	No	----- No/Minor Fiscal Impact -----						0462	
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>									
0462	Publ Utilities Comm Utilities Reimb Acct									

Analyst/Principal (0621) K. DaRosa	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

**BILL ANALYSIS** Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)